

Search Engines Quick Guide

Search Engine	Northern Light	AltaVista	HotBot	Infoseek	Lycos	Excite
Database						
# of Web pages	180 M	145 M	110 M	75 M	50 M	60 M
Newsgroups	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Full-text	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Operators						
To require	+	+	+	+	+	+
To exclude	-	-	-	-	-	-
Phrase search	Quotes " "	Quotes " "	Quotes " "	Quotes " "	Quotes " "	Quotes " "
Truncation	multiple *, one %, stems plurals	Asterisk *	Asterisk * stem from form	Stems	Stems	No
Boolean	and, or, not, ()	Adv Search only: and, or, and not, near, ()	and, or, not, ()	Adv search only (<i>uses template</i>)	and, or, not, adj, near, far, before	AND, OR, AND NOT, ()
Boolean default	And	Or	And	Or	And	Or
Capitalization	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Field searches	title: text: url:	title: domain: link: image: text: url: host: anchor: applet:	title: domain: several feature: <i>format</i>	title: alt: link: url: site:	No	No
Special features	Limit by date, location(s), Sort by date, Custom folders	Limit by date, location(s), language, Auto phrase detect, Related searches	Limit by date, location, media type, file type, Results grouped, Related searches	Limit by location, Refine results set, Sort by date, Related searches, Find similar	Limit by title, pictures, sounds, url, language, Find similar	Concept searching suggests terms, Find similar
Strengths						
Strengths	Custom folders, Advanced search template	Best searching syntax, Image database, Translates	File type search, Advanced search template, Current & special news	Search alt tags for images, Advanced search template	Pictures & sounds search, Advanced search template	News Channel search - 300+ sources
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